

‘ that the Book of *the fulfilling of the Scriptures* was his. A
 ‘ Book followed with the *Eulogies* of the *greatest Divines*,
 ‘ and is a *Manna*, sweet to the Taste of all *serious Christians*.
 ‘ His *Epistolary Discourse*, dedicated to the QUEEN’S
 ‘ MAJESTY [i. e. Queen MARY] hath been most graciously
 ‘ accepted by her, and highly valued by those that I must think
 ‘ of the best of her Subjects.

And in a *Preface* to the same Book, viz. *The confirming Work of a Christian*, we find the following Testimony born and subscribed by Dr. Bates, Mr. Matthew Mead, Mr. Thomas Cole, Mr. John How, Mr. Matthew Sylvester, Mr. Daniel Williams, Mr. John Showers, all eminent Dissenting Ministers in the City of London, viz.

‘ We give our great Thanks to the Author of every good
 ‘ Gift, who hath drawn this *his richly furnish’d Scribe* to
 ‘ supply us with so very needful a Treatise as is here offered.
 ‘ Some of us do profess that in reading it we were surprized
 ‘ with Joy and Wonder, that a Topick so little written, dis-
 ‘ coursed or thought of, should be treated on with *such Depth*
 ‘ of Judgment, and with such Experience as is rarely found in
 ‘ the most laudable Writers. Through the Divine Blessing
 ‘ which we implore, we hope that we, and our Brethren
 ‘ throughout these Nations, shall find good Success of our
 ‘ People’s Use of *this most instructive Work*; For which with
 ‘ the *Excellent Author*, we are indebted to the *reverend and*
 ‘ *worthy Publisher*, &c.

Such a Character from such great and learned Men as these will secure Mr. FLEMING’S high Reputation as long as the Sun endures.

To this we may add the following Passages of that great and famous Calvinistical Divine the Rev. Mr. THOMAS COLE of London, who, as Dr. Calamy tells us, ‘ was a Man
 ‘ of good Learning, and had been *Principal* of St.
 ‘ Mary’s Hall in Oxford:’ They are in his excellent
 Treatise of *Faith, Repentance and Regeneration*, preached at the Merchant’s Lecture in Broadstreet, London, and printed there in 1689. Page 31.

‘ When the Word works effectually after hearing, it usu-
 ‘ ally gives *some powerful Touch* upon the Heart in the Time
 ‘ of hearing. So 1 Cor. 14. 24, 25. he speaks there of the
 ‘ *occasional Conversion* of an Unbeliever, who came into the
 ‘ Assembly, where there was *Propheying and Preaching*.

‘ ‘Tis

'Tis probable some such are come in hither To-day ; Oh
 that God would meet with them, that they might be *con-*
vinced and fall down upon their Faces, worshipping God, ac-
knowledging that he is among us of a Truth. So *Acts* 2. 37.
 their *Hearts were prick'd*, they cry out in the midst of the
 Sermon, *Men and Brethren, what shall we do ?* We want
 such publick *Conversions* ; had we more of these *New-Births*
 in our Congregations, we should have more of these *Out-*
cries ; which would be very awakening to us all. If God
 would honour his Ordinances with such *visible Signs of his*
Presence ; as in the Primitive Times, the Word was
 preached with that Power, that it wrought a great *Conser-*
vation and Astonishment in the whole Assembly ; there was
 a great Impression upon their Minds, which had various
 Effects ; some *blasphemed*, and some *believed*, but all were
 moved and stirred, struck inwardly, tho' many saw not the
 Hand that struck them. 'Tis otherwise now ; Hearers
 are more unconcern'd, in a more drowzy Frame ; we can
 hardly keep them waking all Sermon-Time. They say these
 were extraordinary Cases, not applicable to us now : I must
 tell you, *Conversions* wrought by ordinary Means now, are
 extraordinary Things, have extraordinary Effects ; the
 Light into which we are brought, is, and ought to be, as
 marvellous in our Eyes now, as 'twas in theirs heretofore ;
 they who find nothing of this, neither in or after Conversion,
 would do well to make a stricter Inquiry into their State ;
 sometimes we bring down Grace as low as we can for the
 Sake of weak ones, but we must not make nothing of it, to
 please some who would rest in a *silent easy* Conversion, and
 think to go to Heaven by the charitable Opinion others have
 of them : That so great a Change as *Conversion* is, should
 make so little Appearance as it does in many pretending to
 it, is *that* which we should not easily digest. Let every one
 examine himself.

Should God come upon any of you with a *thorough Con-*
viction of Sin, and give you a *real Sight of Christ* as your
 only Saviour, you would not be able to contain your selves under
 this marvellous Light ; 'twill be like *Fire in your Bones*,
Jer. 20. 9. you'll immediately spring up as the Goaler did,
Acts 16. 29. *ἐκσεπιδίσε* ; he did not consider which Foot
 he should put foremost, but leaped up on a sudden, broke out
 into a *passionate Inquiry* after the Way of Salvation.

A very remarkable Account of *Crying out* is to be met with in the Life of Mr. SAMUEL POMFRET, an eminent Minister in the City of *London*, who deceased there in 1722. wrote by the Rev. Mr. *Thomas Reynolds*, which is as follows :

‘ The Lord did not suffer this his faithful Servant to labour in vain, or spend his Strength for nought. He had a wide Door of Service opened unto him. His Audience at *Home* was always numerous. When he preach’d *abroad*, whether in *City* or *Country*, if it was known, *Multitudes* would flock to hear him : And they are few whose Ministry was attended with more remarkable *Success* than his was. I am assur’d it wou’d be endless to enumerate all the Particulars. However I shall conclude this short Account of his Life, with relating some *Instances* of the great Success, which God gave to his unwearied Labours. In *Conversion Work* he seemed to be honoured above most ; and the Words (*N. B.*) of Mr. *Baxter* were verified concerning him, who, discoursing with a Friend about his Zeal and Courage and Pains, delivered it as his Opinion, “ *That God would own him and such as He was more than others who excelled them in Reputation as judicious Preachers.* ”

‘ He had a marvellous Way of striking the *Consciences* of Sinners. Few could attend his Ministry without strong *Convictions* and *Awakenings*. *Multitudes* of young People were greatly affected by him. The Rev. Mr. *Joseph Kentish*, my old Friend and Acquaintance, who preached for some time in *London* with great Acceptance, and was afterwards Pastor at *Bristol* to as great a Congregation, as any in *England*, told me many Years ago when a young Man, That he received the first Impressions of his Seriousness under his Ministry, and that he knew of many others who had done the like. He would set before Sinners the *Terrors* of the LORD in such a Manner as if *Hell-Fire* were *flashing in their Faces*, and has pressed Things so home upon the *Conscience* that some have not been able to contain themselves, but have cried out in the midst of the Congregation, even whilst he hath been preaching, *I am the Man, Guilty ! Guilty ! What shall I do to be saved ! For the Lord’s Sake pray for me !* They have been convinced before all, have taken publick Shame to themselves, and in the after Course of their Lives have given Proofs of a sound *Conversion*. Of these I am assured there are now some Instances living.

And with Respect to *Out-cries* from the overbearing Influence of *Divine Joys*; we shall give the following remarkable *Instances* from the Rev. Mr. THOMAS WHITE, Lecturer at St. Bride's, London: Of whom Dr. Calamy writes, 'That
' He was a general Scholar; Mr. Chillingworth's *Amanuensis*;
' of great Humility and Sincerity; an excellent, practical,
' useful Preacher; much esteem'd, and protected at the
' Chappel at *Ludgate* by Bp. Sheldon, and often very kindly
' treated by him.' They are in his very valuable *Treatise of the Power of Godliness*, Printed at London in 1658: And the first *Instance* is as follows — p. 388.

' A precious holy Man told me of a *Woman* that was *six Years* in *Desertion*; and by God's Providence hearing Mr. Rollock preach, she of a sudden fell down, overwhelmed with
' Joy, crying out, *O, he is come, whom my Soul loveth!* and
' so was carried home for dead; and for divers Days after
' she was filled with *exceeding Joys*, and had such pious and
' singularly ravishing Expressions, so fluently coming from
' her, that many came to hear the rare Manifestations of God's
' Grace in her; and amongst the rest that went to hear, there
' was one that could write Short-Hand, who yet a great while
' stood so amazed at her Expressions, that he could not write;
' at last, recovering himself, he wrote a whole Sheet of Paper;
' which this Minister read, and told me, that of all the Expressions that ever he read in the Book of Martyrs, or elsewhere, he never read any so high, as the lowest of them.

To this we may add *another Instance* of *exceeding Joy* in the HOLY GHOST, as represented by the same Author, *Page 272*, in the following Terms:

' That precious Saint Mrs. Drake, of whose Life & Death
' there is a little Book worth the perusing, out of which I
' shall only give you an Account of her Carriage, and the
' wonderful Raptures that God gave her a little before her
' Death. She was a Woman of great Temptations and Desertions for the space of *ten Years*, notwithstanding the
' Endeavours and Labours of those four eminent Servants of God, Bishop Usher, Dr. Preston, Mr. Hooker, * and Mr. Dod: but at last growing sickly, and being free from her

* i. e. The famous Mr. Thomas Hooker, afterwards of *Hartford* in *New-England*; who when he first left the University sojourn'd at her House. Deser-

‘ Desertions, she became incessant in her Discourses of Hea-
 ‘ ven, and of the Things of God Night and Day ; so that
 ‘ she took little Rest, but spent her Time and Strength in
 ‘ Duties and Conference. She knew her *End* approached
 ‘ near, tho’ others look’d upon her Distemper rather as an
 ‘ Indisposition of Body, than a Fit of Sicknes ; but she be-
 ‘ ing confident she should *die*, thereupon went to her Father’s
 ‘ House, where she always desired to end her Days : and Mr.
 ‘ *Dod* coming to her, spending much Time in Prayer, Confe-
 ‘ rence, and expounding the Scripture ; she carried her self
 ‘ with such unsatiable Desires of more, and such inflamed
 ‘ Discourses of the Things of God, that they were all fill’d
 ‘ with Admiration. The *Lord’s Day* before her *Death*, she
 ‘ call’d all her Children together ; and with many Admoni-
 ‘ tions and zealous Instructions, and heavenly Discourses, she
 ‘ spent much Time that Day with them. The *Tuesday* fol-
 ‘ lowing Mr. *Dod* came, and spent some Time in heavenly
 ‘ Discourses, and then went to Prayer ; and suddenly as
 ‘ Prayer was done, she broke forth in a wonderful Manner,
 ‘ in these Expressions : “ Oh, Oh, Oh, what’s this, what’s
 ‘ this, what’s this ? I am undone, undone, undone, I cannot
 ‘ endure it ; O, O, O, let me be gone, let me be gone, O,
 ‘ I must be gone, I cannot tarry, I cannot tarry ; O what
 ‘ shall I do ? what shall I do ? what shall I do ? O Father,
 ‘ O Mother, O Husband, kiss me, kiss me, and let me be
 ‘ gone ; come all, farewell all, let me take you by the Hand,
 ‘ and be gone : Lo, lo, the Angels are come, they wait and
 ‘ stay for me ; O dear Mother ! why hold you me ? I must
 ‘ be gone, O, he is come, he is come, he is come : Now,
 ‘ you have it, you have it, you have it, why hold you me ?
 ‘ Let me be gone, my Work is done : O call, call, call,
 ‘ where is my Crown ; fetch me my Crown, bring, bring,
 ‘ bring me my white Robes, quickly, quickly, quickly, why
 ‘ run you not ? the Angels stay, now you have it, you have it,
 ‘ you have it, (meaning that now we had the Issue & Fruits of
 ‘ all our Prayers) O, it overcomes, overcomes, overcomes me ;
 ‘ undone, undone, undone, what shall I do ? what shall I do ?
 ‘ what shall I do ? O you will not let me be gone.”
 ‘ With innumerable such swift Expressions as could not be
 ‘ remembred, she in that short Time of half a quarter of an
 ‘ Hour, speaking more than one can treatibly speak in an
 ‘ Hour, with an extraordinary Swiftness (no ordinary Action
 ‘ of

* of this Life) when with all she heaved up still all the Time
 * with fixed Eyes, towards the House Top, as tho' she had
 * seen some Vision, and would have flown away from them
 * all. During which Time (as we cannot blame them) the
 * Posture of all the Spectators was (except her Husband, who
 * went weeping, and wringing his Hands up and down the
 * Chamber) Silence, Wonder and Admiration; they in all
 * their Life-time having never seen or heard of the like; which
 * put Mr. *Dod*, her Husband, and all of them to a *nonplus*
 * (as being beyond all Experience) but if the Reader will have
 * Patience, this good Creature shall her self expound this
 * rare Riddle, yea, and Comment upon it.

* This Fit of sudden, extream, ravishing, unsupportable
 * Joy, (beyond the Strength of Mortality to retain, or be
 * long capable of) being over, and she laid again, who for-
 * merly had striven to have got away from them all: all being
 * in an amazed astonished Silence, she herself began thus;
 * "Why are you silent? Where is Mr. *Dod*?" who being
 * near her, sat by her Bed-side, unto whom she thus
 * directed her Speech; "Sir, what did you think of me
 * lately in this strange Posture I have been in? Did not you
 * imagine me to have been mad all the Time?" Mr. *Dod*
 * replied, no, but that it was very strange unto them all,
 * having never heard or seen the like: "So (said she) surely it
 * was very strange, but will you know how it surprized me:
 * "As this Morning, ere you came to Prayer, I being alone,
 * prayed to God, that he would not absent himself for ever;
 * but that once before my Death, he would reveal Christ
 * unto me, give me some Sense and Feeling of his Love, and
 * open the brazen Gates of this hard Heart of mine, that
 * the King of Glory may enter in: After which, as you
 * had prayed, this sudden *out-crying Fit* of unsupportable Joy,
 * and Feeling, surprized me with such Violence, rushing in
 * upon me, as I could not contain my self, but make this
 * sudden *Out-cry* among you all: but I must confess unto you
 * I know not, neither do I remember what I said, but now
 * I beseech you to make this Use hereof hereafter unto all
 * in my Case.

* After me never despair of any, how desperately misera-
 * ble soever their Case be, which at the worst cannot exceed
 * mine, but use and apply the Means unto them, and they
 * will prevail at length: I was like a Piece of knotty Tim-
 * ber,

“ber, who have endured so many the more Knocks with
 “strong Wedges, so much Ado there was to work me: But
 “now I thank God, who hath heard my Prayer, and revealed
 “Christ unto me, and now I care not for all this World: the
 “Fountain of all my Misery hath been, that I sought for that
 “in the Law, which I should have found in the Gospel, and
 “for that in my self, which was only to be found in Christ.
 “A wrong Way I confess, which hath occasioned unto me
 “so much Sorrow, but now all is well; O pray, pray, pray;
 “O give Thanks, for now you have it, you have it, you
 “have it.” This so solid and strange Speech, so heavenly,
 “rational, gave a great deal of Contentment unto all present.
 “Mr. *Dod* according unto her Desire, framing himself unto
 “a Prayer altogether of Thanksgiving, admiring God’s infi-
 “nite Work in her, and for her, beseeching a happy Close
 “of this great Work begun: For Matter of Petition now she
 “cared not for, lying like a Conqueror with an extraordinary
 “cheerful Aspect, full of rapt Joy, as now she had been Pos-
 “sessor of all Things, having no Need of any Thing: Now
 “that Christ was hers, all Things being hers also: The Re-
 “mainder of the Day being spent in over-joyed Speeches,
 “with Exhortation to Thanksgiving, still telling us, you have
 “it, you have it, you have it; and taking our Hands in hers,
 “and heaving them up and down many Times together, very
 “thankful to us all, as she wished us to be thankful unto God
 “for her.

“The same *Tuesday* again, about Four of the Clock in the
 “Afternoon, the Chamber being full of her Friends, joyful
 “to see her so fraught with Joy, after so many sorrowful
 “Days. Suddenly she fell out again in a strange Manner, in
 “such another rapt Fit of Joy, beyond all Expression, utter-
 “ing just about the same Things as formerly, in the same
 “Manner as in the Morning, enduring about the same Time:
 “and so ceased, and was quiet again as formerly: she there-
 “upon called Mr. *Dod*, wondering at the Strangeness of the
 “Thing, told him, that her Joy and Sense thereof was so
 “overcoming and strong, as she could not for her Life con-
 “tain herself from bursting forth thus again; for as she said,
 “her frail Flesh was overcome therewith, and so she entreat-
 “ed him again to give Thanks: he did so, spending the
 “Remainder of that Day in heavenly Discourses of another
 “World.

(To be finished in our next.)